ASSIGNMENT PREFERENCE: ORGANIZING TASK FORCE

I'm fairly open to a variety of assignments -- the boycott, petition campaign, service center or field office (hiring hall, contract enforcement) work or a return to field work at some key grape ranch (Bagdasarian, Tenneco). But I really enjoyed the Imperial Valley legal department and campaign, and would most like to continue that kind of work, either stationed in a field office or in a task force group moving with the campaign. I would least like to work as a full time organizer or with the legal department on litigation.

Geographically, I would prefer to work in the Coachella-San Joaquin Valley campaigns but am really open to any assignments in or outside California. I would like to be able to use and improve my Arabic, which would probably mean an assignment in the grapes or asparagas. But for what it's worth, I enjoyed Calexico, was beginning to know my way around Mexicali (for witness search), and was getting to know people, companies, and issues in the lettuce and vegetable industry, and would be happy to follow the industry back to Salinas or Santa Maria.

My skills include very competant typing in English and Spanish (and moderate proficiency, 20-30 words a minute, in Arabic, which would improve if I used it more -- I have an Arabic typewriter). I have enough Spanish to take simple declarations and carry on simple conversations. My Arabic at present is not adequate for taking any kind of declarations, even simple ones, but I think it would come back if I used it more.

In addition to good clerical skills (typing, declaration taking, filing ULP's, staff filing, etc... moderate anal orientation), I ran one Unfair hearing for the union (a Maggio "false peak" and hiring-for-the-purpose-of-voting ULP in which Moe Jourdaine was doing all the key court-room orchestration and I was mostly backup). The case was settled after a single day of testimony as part of the election settlement. I was also in charge of setting aside those elections which were certain loosers (F & M, California Lettuce) and defending some shakey victories (Corda, Freshpict), as well as a whole series of easy defences, but have no NLRB background with which to substantiate my briefs. I have never done an election hearing (aside from the Grodin-Nobriega preliminary hearings in the Imperial Valley in December).

I love to MauMau growers, contractors, supervisors, foremen, politicians, and slow-moving board agents but am nervous and defensive in front of competant lawyers like Grodin (or even lightweights like Nunez). I never read a law before the ALRA. But I enjoy reading the decisions.

My other background includes two years in the grapes (1971-1973) as well as a pre-union summer of farm work in 1965. As my camp was overwhelmingly Filipino and Arabic, I am especially sensitive to and aware of the problems and political attitudes of these groups. I had almost two years on the boycott, a year in South Texas, a long (and occassionally notorious) history with the union, Tulare County Jail, an ease in writing (and a $1 million libel suit), and a resistance to rigid hierarchy and bureaucratic authority. I'm a team player rather than an organization man. My committment to the union is long-range, but I'm not especially reliable or stable in settling down in a single spot or job for an extended number of years (especially indoors jobs). I've really enjoyed the legal department and think I'm pretty good for certain jobs within it, but at present have no special committment to it as my most appropriate nitch within the union. I like gardening and farm work.

Viva la Causa...
Doug Adair
Feb. 22, 1976